

CONFIDENTIAL

WEEKLY HOT ISSUES REPORT FOR RA/DRA

WEEK ENDING AUGUST 15, 2014

OFFICE OF ECOSYSTEMS PROTECTION AND REMEDIATION

Last Week –

SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL REQUESTS BRIEFING ON THE SUGAR HOUSE PARK PCE PLUME: On August 7, 2014, the Salt Lake City Council requested a written briefing from the EPA on site status and options for further investigation and cleanup under CERCLA. This tetrachlorethylene (PCE) contaminated ground water plume has impacted a city drinking water well and presents a possible vapor intrusion risk to residents in the Sugar House Park neighborhood of Salt Lake City. Currently, the drinking water threat is being managed by the public water utility and the impacted well has been removed from service. While the site is eligible for National Priorities List designation, the Region will conduct additional indoor air testing this fall. The testing will provide a better understanding of the public health threat and help State and local officials determine the need for continued Federal involvement. The Site Assessment program plans to submit a briefing packet to the Council early next week.

Contacts: Ryan Dunham 312-6627 or Victor Ketellapper 312-6578.

This Week –

O&M TRANSITION (LIBBY ASBESTOS SUPERFUND SITE):

Background: EPA, Montana DEQ and a representative from the Lincoln County Asbestos Resource Program (Nick Raines/ARP) have been meeting periodically since January 2014 to discuss transition of the Superfund project to MDEQ for O&M and Institutional Controls (ICs).

Status: Nick Raines (ARP) briefed the City and County Board of Health on August 6, 2014, on the status of our periodic transition meetings. The Board of Health and County Commissioners are concerned about the direction of our discussions. Specifically, they do not believe that residents or developers of Lincoln County should bear any financial burden for the future management of asbestos contamination left in place. The Commissioners have cancelled our regular EPA update this week to "...allow them time to gather more information on this significant development."

Next Steps:

- 1) EPA will speak informally with the Commissioners this week about their concerns. We will assure Lincoln County that the discussions are very much a work in progress. EPA is collaborating with Montana DEQ and Lincoln County to develop options to manage waste left in place.
- 2) EPA plans to begin IC discussions in Libby next month.
- 3) EPA has contacted staff for both Senators Tester and Walsh to apprise them of the situation.
- 4) EPA will speak with Montana DEQ this week to discuss next steps to engage the Commissioners, Board of Health, and communities of Libby and Troy on this topic.

Point of Contact: Rebecca Thomas, Libby Asbestos Team Lead, (303) 312-6552

Next Week –

LINCOLN PARK NPL SITE: On August 21, 2014, ATSDR plans to release the Final Public Health Assessment (PHA) for the Lincoln Park NPL site in Canon City. Based on responses to earlier drafts of the PHA, strong interest from concerned citizens and possibly the media is likely. The primary conclusions include potential health effects from: (1) long-term ingestion of molybdenum found in one private well near the site; (2) ingestion of arsenic from consumption of large quantities of produce (5 cups per day vs. a more typical 1-1/2 cups per day) grown in contaminated soils; and (3) a potential risk to consumers of livestock that ingest contaminated well water. The report also concluded some pathways that do not pose a risk to the community: (1) airborne radon emissions from the site; (2) ingestion of or dermal exposure to soils in the Lincoln Park community. ATSDR concluded that there was insufficient information to evaluate lead exposures in residential communities north and west of the facility. Lead and arsenic detected in these areas may be attributable to smelting operations from the 1920s through the 1950s rather than the NPL site. These areas will be assessed as part of the upcoming remedial investigation.

The original PHA was completed in 1989. Because a significant amount of data was later collected, ATSDR revised the PHA in 2010 which resulted in many comments from concerned community members. Responses to these comments are presented in the final PHA. While ATSDR identified some potential health threats in the final PHA, the threats do not appear to be of the severity indicated by the community in their earlier comments.

Contacts: Mark Aguilar, 312-6251; Rob Stites 312-6658

OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT, COMPLIANCE & ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Next 30 Days –

CLEAN AIR ACT INSPECTIONS SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER

Enforcement/Investigatory / Ex. 7(a)

Enforcement/Investigatory / Ex. 7(a)

Enforcement/Investigatory / Ex. 7(a)

Contact(s): Hans Buenning, 312-6486

RCRA INSPECTIONS PLANNED

Enforcement/Investigatory / Ex. 7(a)

Enforcement/Investigatory / Ex. 7(a)

Contact(s): Aaron Urdiales, 312-6844; Gwen Campbell, 312-6463

OFFICE OF PARTNERSHIPS AND REGULATORY ASSISTANCE

This Week –

ROSEBUD SIOUX TRIBE GAP GRANT NOT RENEWED FOR 2014-15: The Office of Partnerships and Regulatory Assistance (OPRA) is sending a letter to President Scott of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe informing him that the General Assistance Program (GAP) grant GA 97852914-0 will not be renewed for the 2014-15 grant year. The agency made the determination not to renew the grant due to:

- Lack of submitting adequate quarterly progress reports in a timely manner;
- Lack of progress towards accomplishing tasks in the work plan; and
- Lack of response to the EPA Project Officer's comment to the quarterly reports.

The Tribe will continue to receive EPA Funding Opportunity Notices and may reapply for GAP funds for FY2016. This decision was previously shared with the Rosebud Sioux Tribe Environmental Director, and President Scott is being notified by phone on August 14, 2014. *Information only, no action required by the RA/DRA.*

Contacts: Alfreda Mitre, 312-6343 or Gregory Phillips, 312-6356

Next Week –

111d SUPPLEMENTAL PROPOSAL FOR AFFECTED FACILITIES ON TRIBAL LANDS:

An options selection briefing for Administrator McCarthy is tentatively planned for the week of August 18, 2014, on the 111d supplemental proposal for, in part, existing power plants in Indian country. It is set to be proposed in early-mid October.

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

Initial consultation with the Ute Indian Tribe on the development of the supplemental proposal was held on July 18, 2014. *Information only; no action required by the RA/DRA.*

Contacts: Carl Daly, 312-6416; Laura Farris, 312-6388

URBAN AIR TOXICS REPORT TO CONGRESS: The Office of Air and Radiation (OAR) is making final plans for the public rollout of the Urban Air Toxics Report to Congress, with a release date set for August 21, 2014. The Report is required under the Clean Air Act to inform Congress of EPA's actions and progress in reducing public health risks from urban air toxics. The Report's findings show that EPA has made substantial progress over the past two decades to reduce air toxics, but that certain areas of the country remain at risk. In Region 8, the main area of concern is the Denver metro area where parts of the city are showing an elevated cancer risk, primarily due to motor vehicle emissions. The Region 8 Air Program is the current national sublead for air toxics and will play a key role in coordinating with OAR on the rollout. *Information only; no action required by the RA/DRA.*

Contacts: Scott Jackson, 312-6107; Kyle Olson, 312-6002

Next 30 Days –

NORTH DAKOTA REGIONAL HAZE LETTER: The Region 8 Air Program received a letter dated July 18, 2014, from North Dakota's Division of Air Quality regarding selective catalytic reduction (SCR) control technology testing. In the letter, the state rejects pilot testing, at this time, for resolving the question of technical feasibility for SCR at certain power plants that burn North Dakota lignite. The letter came after a verbal inquiry from Region 8 staff to North Dakota staff to discuss a 2011 North Dakota letter that offered SCR testing. Despite this recent letter, the Air Program plans to keep some

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

information only; no action required by RA/DRA.

Contact: Carl Daly, (303) 312-6416 or Gail Fallon, (303) 312-6281

MONTANA OPERATIONS OFFICE

*No items to report.